

Parents Who Want Their Teens To Read More Books

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Cat Eyes Chick says:

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Initial post: Feb 28, 2008 5:40 PM PST

K. C. Barrister says:

I don't know the best way to say this, so I think I'll just be brutally honest. I happen to be the mother of three teenager daughters, and am also a university professor who works with eighteen- and nineteen-year-olds. In my opinion, no teenager is going to look seriously at your book. Teens are looking for something edgier - if nothing else, compare your cover to the covers of Eragon, Eldest, and Brisingr by Christopher Paolini. Those books are marketed to the same audience you're trying to hit, and the covers also feature dragons, but are stronger images with a more mature look. I think your cover would more likely appeal to the elementary school market. I know this isn't what you want to hear, and I wish I could tell you otherwise, but it's my honest opinion.

In reply to [an earlier post](#) on Mar 15, 2008 10:38 AM PDT

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6 of 6 people think this post adds to the discussion. Do you? [Yes](#) [No](#)

Cat Eyes Chick says:

[Customers don't think this post adds to the discussion. [Show all unhelpful posts.](#)]

In reply to [an earlier post](#) on Mar 15, 2008 4:08 PM PDT
Last edited by the author on Mar 15, 2008 4:10 PM PDT

K. C. Barrister says:

FYI: My daughters are 16, 14, and 11. But I wish you the best.

In reply to [an earlier post](#) on Mar 15, 2008 4:21 PM PDT

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6 of 6 people think this post adds to the discussion. Do you? [Yes](#) [No](#)

Cat Eyes Chick says:

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In reply to [an earlier post](#) on Mar 15, 2008 4:27 PM PDT

L. A. Heap says:

Seeing as you said it's okay to be brutally honest, I'll post this. I hope you don't mind that I'm not a parent, seeing as you clearly directed your question towards parents.

In reply to [an earlier post](#) on Mar 15, 2008 6:38 PM PDT

Coming from a thirteen year old, I think the cover of this book would appeal more to a younger audience. I agree with K.C. Barrister; the majority of our middle school and older elementary school student (5th and 6th graders) own copies of Christopher Paolini's books and we're doomed to compare them.

My opinion may be rather biased, though. Personally, I've never liked computer-game type images.

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4 of 4 people think this post adds to the discussion. Do you? [Yes](#) [No](#)

Joseph Ekaitis says:

Quoting Denise Brown Ellis:
"I don't want an eighteen or nineteen year old to be interested in my childrens and young teens book. If an eighteen or nineteen year old isn't reading more mature books instead of reading children's and young teen books then I would think that there is something very wrong with them. Thank you."

There must really be something wrong with me. I'm past the half-century mark and I still love to sit down with "The Wind in the Willows" and "Stuart Little" and "The Reluctant Dragon." I love it when people tell me they bought my book for their kids, then had to go out and buy another copy for themselves and their adult friends, or that their oh-so-cool teenage children enjoyed it.

Yeah, a lot of sick, twisted people in this world, but like the bumper sticker says:

I don't suffer from insanity.
I enjoy every moment.

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4 of 4 people think this post adds to the discussion. Do you? [Yes](#) [No](#)

Archer McFarland says:

Joseph: Hear, Hear!
I still read Lewis Carroll and A.A. Milne, for cryin' out loud. I LOVE Tasha Tudor's 'Corgiville Fair'. Now, there probably IS something wrong with me, but I don't think reading children's fiction is the best indicator. It's almost as though I have reversed my taste in literature...I read 'Moby Dick' when I was ten years old. Of course, all we had in the house were the 'classics'. :-)

On an unrelated note, I am curious as to what has drawn people to actually purchase 'Antigua'? It seems that a few people have purchased it, even with 'search inside' and the worst reviews I've yet beheld. I'd really like to know what motivated them to purchase it, but I would consider it rude to start such a thread on Denise's 'product forums'. Would this be in poor taste, do you think? I'd also like to know where Denise got her marketing advice. If her publisher so advised her (which I doubt) I will have words with them! If she came up with it on her own, I'd like to know that, too.

'Archer'

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3 of 3 people think this post adds to the discussion. Do you? [Yes](#) [No](#)

Joseph Ekaitis says:

Archer McFarland said:
"I am curious as to what has drawn people to actually purchase 'Antigua'? It seems that a few people have purchased it, even with 'search inside' and the worst reviews I've yet beheld."

The Recent Purchases column of the author's profile page reveals a tactic to sweeten a book's sales ranking on Amazon.com, and often recommended by vanity publishers.

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Cat Eyes Chick says:

In reply to [an earlier post](#) on Mar 23, 2008 12:51 PM PDT

This discussion

Discussion in: [ANTIGUA: The Land of Fairies Wizards and Heroes \(Part 1\) forum](#)
Participants: 7
Total posts: 17
Initial post: 1 month ago
Latest post: 2 days ago

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This discussion is about



ANTIGUA: The Land of Fairies Wizards and Heroes (Part 1) by Larry Ellis (Paperback - September 27, 2007)
★★★★☆ (6)
Buy new: ~~\$17.99~~ **\$16.19** [In Stock](#)
10 used & new from \$11.51

Customers who viewed this item also viewed



Beatrice Beecham's Fearsome Feast by Dave, Jeffery (Paperback - February 7, 2007)
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Brisingr (Inheritance, Book 3) by Christopher Paolini (Hardcover - September 20, 2008)

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Atlanta Nights by Travis Tea (Paperback - January 26, 2005)
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Cat Eyes Chick says:

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In reply to an [earlier post](#) on Mar 23, 2008 2:07 PM PDT

Sunglow28 says:

I have been silent but seething up to this point. Now I cannot stay quiet anymore. What disrespect you show to your potential readers. Describing your book as a "kiddie book for babies" both debases your reader and reveals your true feelings for your audience. I am horrified to think that you would choose to write a book for readers you obviously see as unworthy and undeserving of good literature. As a Graduate Student in a Children's Literature program I assure you I both read and enjoy the wonderful genre that is juvenile literature. Most of what I read is finely written and well crafted, well worthy of study and consideration by adults and children alike.

Please, read a few good books that are well written. I can certainly suggest some if you like. I urge you to then do some soul searching to really decide how your book compares. Ask yourself if you really want your book, a poorly conceived and executed piece of writing falling into the hands of impressionable young readers?

Respect readers. Please.

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9 of 9 people think this post adds to the discussion. Do you? [Yes](#) [No](#)

In reply to an [earlier post](#) on Mar 23, 2008 3:29 PM PDT
Last edited by the author on Mar 23, 2008 3:49 PM PDT

Cat Eyes Chick says:

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In reply to an [earlier post](#) on Mar 24, 2008 3:20 AM PDT

Archer McFarland says:

Denise: Bless you, too.

Actually, I asked a legitimate question. I'm sure you'll agree that the reviews posted are...well...less than stellar (although I notice that the one REALLY offensive, tasteless one has been withdrawn, thank heavens). You'll also notice that people posting them appear familiar with 'Antigua'. My question is put to them: What drew them to purchase the book? Obviously, it wasn't the other reviews. Probably wasn't 'Search Inside', as they are all complaining about lack of editing, exclamation points, etc., and that is obvious from reading any page. Was it the cover art? Was it the book description? Did they have advance review copies? What drew them to buy it? As an author, you are no doubt interested in the answer to this question. Instead of berating me for posting, perhaps you should seek the answer to that question yourself.

I can understand why you are defensive, but when you start your own discussion thread(s), you must be prepared for people to discuss things. If you're not happy with the way the discussion is going, then remove the thread. I think you have that option, don't you?

Thanks for your concern over my time-wasting, but I am ever-curious as to what draws people to buy particular books. I would like to know more about marketing. Since it seems to upset you, I'll move on to more productive uses of my time.

'A'

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7 of 7 people think this post adds to the discussion. Do you? [Yes](#) [No](#)

In reply to an [earlier post](#) on Mar 24, 2008 9:36 PM PDT
Last edited by the author on Mar 24, 2008 9:38 PM PDT

L. A. Heap says:

Archer McFarland said:

"I am curious as to what has drawn people to actually purchase 'Antigua'? It seems that a few people have purchased it, even with 'search inside' and the worst reviews I've yet beheld."

Personally, I purchased the book out of curiosity. Admittedly, \$17.99 was rather expensive to purchase a book "out of curiosity" considering I wasn't sure whether the authors posts were reflecting her writing, as at that time, they were written in caps and weren't always in complete sentences, but technically, the pricing didn't affect me, as I'm using my parents' credit card and I did get to do my own test to see who it was age appropriate for. Again, out of curiosity, I showed it to 9 year-old students at my school. If it helps, one did really like the cover art, so that could be it too.

Joseph Ekaitis said:

"The Recent Purchases column of the author's profile page reveals a tactic to sweeten a book's sales ranking on Amazon.com, and often recommended by vanity publishers."

I agree, but if you look at the book's page, it says that 49% of costumers who viewed that page ended up purchasing it, so she's not alone.

I hope none of this is taken as being insulting. It is not intended to be so.

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2 of 2 people think this post adds to the discussion. Do you? [Yes](#) [No](#)

In reply to an [earlier post](#) on Mar 25, 2008 5:52 AM PDT

Archer McFarland says:

L.A.: Interesting. That's just the sort of feedback I was looking for! Thanks. BTW: I'm not sure how the '% of viewers end up purchasing' works, or how it is calculated. For example, if Denise goes to her own page 100 times in 100 days, and she has purchased it three times, does Amazon count that as 3%? Or do they simply count her as 100 customers who have purchased? See what I mean? Anyone know how it works?

'A'

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4 of 4 people think this post adds to the discussion. Do you? [Yes](#) [No](#)

In reply to an [earlier post](#) on April 15, 2008 4:20 PM PDT

Captain Roquefort says:

I will begin this posting with an apology. To everyone who thought this horrible book and it's equally dislikable author/promoter would just fade into the woodwork: I'm sorry.

I've just spent some time reading through all the reviews and the threads related to this train wreck and I just can't help myself. You all had so much fun giving Denise more and more rope with which she could hang herself, I had to get involved. I hope you'll all forgive me.

Two things in the specific post I'm 'reply'ing to really struck a chord with me. Here they are.

Denise said: "You being a Graduate Student have some knowledge on basic law."

I said: "Huh!? Since when does being a grad student automatically mean you've taken law courses?"

Tigger said: "That's preposterous!"

Denise said: "No other author can order someone to slow down on the posts of their books or else suffer their wrath."

I said: "Huh!? I read EVERY post/review. Not one person threatened you in any way! Paranoid, a little, maybe?"

Tigger said: "That's preposterous!"

Lastly, I have a question for you, Denise: Where did you learn English? Though you appear to have many of the words down individually, it's in the combining them into sentences that you stumble. I have the same problem with German. Took years of it in high school; know many of the words; sound like a "dern fool" when I try to speak it.

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Antigua Discussions	11	15 days ago
If you really believe in your work . . .	0	26 days ago
PARENTS OF OLDER TEENS OVER FOURTEEN DO NOT CRITIQUE THE COVER OF MY BOOK	0	1 month ago
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